

you for standing for what's right. Thank you for helping the liberated. And thank you for working for peace.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:45 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq; and President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan.

### **Proclamation 8138—National Physical Fitness and Sports Month, 2007**

*May 1, 2007*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

National Physical Fitness and Sports Month is an opportunity to educate Americans about the importance of healthy habits and regular physical activity. During this annual observance, we renew our commitment to helping keep our citizens physically active, and we recognize the value of incorporating exercise and sports into our daily lives.

Regular physical activity is vital to good health. By maintaining an active lifestyle, citizens can reduce their risk of developing chronic health conditions. Participating in outdoor activities and individual or team sports helps promote physical fitness. These activities also teach young people important life lessons, including teamwork, patience, and discipline.

My Administration is committed to helping ensure the good health of all Americans. This year is the fifth anniversary of the HealthierUS initiative, which helps Americans improve their personal health and fitness and prevent disease. The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports is spreading the message that a healthy America is a country that is physically active. Additionally, this year the Department of Health and Human Services and its partners launched a public awareness campaign to promote exercise and eating well to America's youth. This campaign encourages kids to "Be a Player: Get Up and Play an Hour a Day." To find out other ways to improve health, Americans can visit [fitness.gov](http://fitness.gov) or

[presidentschallenge.org](http://presidentschallenge.org). By making physical fitness a priority, our citizens can help prevent disease and live healthier lives.

**Now, Therefore I, George W. Bush**, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 2007 as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. I call upon my fellow citizens to participate in athletic activities and make physical fitness a priority in their lives. I also encourage individuals, schools, and communities to celebrate this month with appropriate activities and programs.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:54 a.m., May 2, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on May 3.

### **Proclamation 8139—Older Americans Month, 2007**

*May 1, 2007*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

During Older Americans Month, we pay tribute to our senior citizens for the many ways they strengthen our Nation. Our country is blessed by their compassionate acts, the wisdom of their experiences, and the patriotism they demonstrate.

This year's theme, "Older Americans: Making Choices for a Healthier Future," underscores the importance of making informed decisions regarding lifestyle and personal health. The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports encourages seniors to engage in physical activity through a program called the President's Challenge. By recognizing the importance of staying active, in conjunction with nutritious eating and proper medical care, older Americans can